



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



WEEKLY AG UPDATE

USDA/NASS
NEW MEXICO FIELD OFFICE

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Crop Weather Cattle on Feed Farm Labor

Available on the Internet: www.nass.usda.gov/nm, or by email (1-800-530-8810 for information)

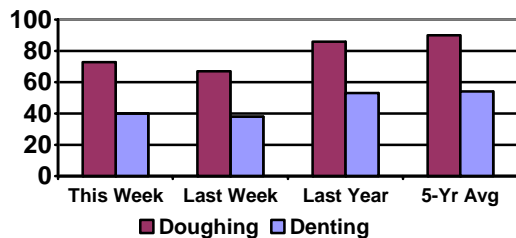
CROP SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING AUGUST 26, 2007

NEW MEXICO: There were 6.7 days suitable for field work. Topsoil moisture was 12% very short, 47% short and 41% adequate. Wind damage was 9% light and 1% moderate. Hail damage was 3% light, 2% moderate and 2% severe. Farmers spent the week cutting and bailing hay, as well as irrigating and harvesting crops. Alfalfa was reported as 4% poor, 25% fair, 43% good and 28% excellent with 88% of the fourth cutting complete and 49% of the fifth cutting complete. Cotton was reported as 15% poor, 44% fair, 22% good and 19% excellent with 100% setting bolls and 8% bolls opening. Corn was reported as 4% fair, 54% good and 42% excellent with 73% dough, 40% dent and 29% mature. Irrigated sorghum was reported as 5% fair, 84% good, and 11% excellent with 50% headed, 23% coloring and 5% mature. Dry sorghum was reported as 71% fair, 26% good and 3% excellent with 40% headed and 8% coloring. Total sorghum was reported as 45% fair, 49% good and 6% excellent with 44% headed, 14% coloring and 2% mature. Chile was reported as 3% very poor, 7% poor, 49% fair, 13% good and 28% excellent with 40% harvested green. Pecans were reported as 1% very poor, 10% fair, 31% good and 58% excellent. Peanuts were reported as 3% poor, 78% fair and 19% good. Lettuce was reported as 76% planted. Cattle conditions were reported as 1% very poor, 1% poor, 25% fair, 36% good and 37% excellent. Sheep conditions were reported as 7% very poor, 11% poor, 11% fair, 41% good and 30% excellent. Range and pasture conditions were reported as 5% very poor, 14% poor, 46% fair, 28% good and 7% excellent. Ranchers were contracting stockers and calves with some deliveries being made. Pasture and range conditions have been dry due to little or no rain.

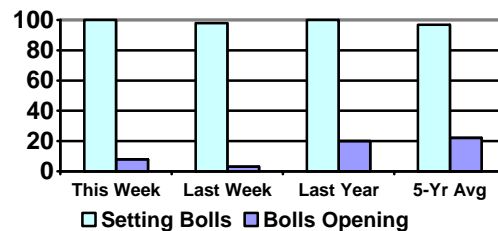
CROP PROGRESS PERCENTAGES WITH COMPARISONS

CROP PROGRESS		This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Average
CHILE (Green)	Harvest	40	21	36	46
CORN	Doughing	73	67	86	90
CORN	Denting	40	38	53	54
COTTON	Setting Bolls	100	98	100	97
COTTON	Bolls Opening	8	3	20	22
SORGHUM (Total)	Headed	44	30	50	63
LETTUCE	Planted	76	75	76	78

Corn Progress



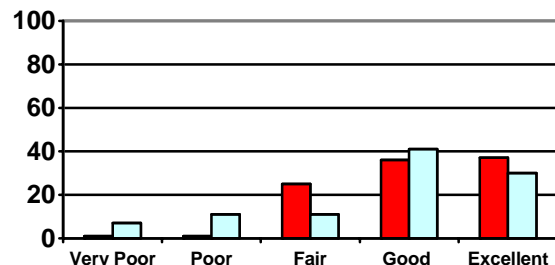
Cotton Progress



CROP AND LIVESTOCK CONDITION PERCENTAGES

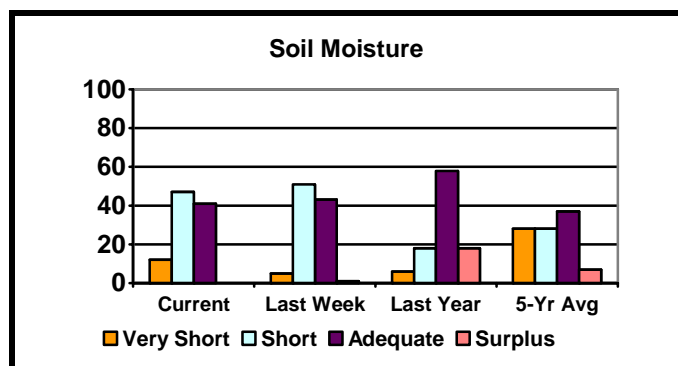
	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Alfalfa	---	4	25	43	28
Chile	3	7	49	13	28
Corn	---	---	4	54	42
Cotton	---	15	44	22	19
Pecans	1	---	10	31	58
Peanuts	---	3	78	19	---
Sorghum (All)	---	---	45	49	6
Cattle	1	1	25	36	37
Sheep	7	11	11	41	30
Range/Pasture	5	14	46	28	7

Livestock Conditions



SOIL MOISTURE PERCENTAGES

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
Northwest	15	42	42	1
Northeast	19	63	18	---
Southwest	---	23	77	---
Southeast	---	36	64	---
State Current	12	47	41	--
State-Last Week	5	51	43	1
State-Last Year	6	18	58	18
State-5-Yr Avg.	28	28	37	7



WEATHER SUMMARY

Little cloud cover existed across much of the state through the first half of the work week, and thus a significant reduction in shower and thunderstorm activity followed. The lack of cloud cover and moisture allowed temperatures to push above normal statewide with several records tied and broken. Into the latter part of the week, an increase in moisture lead to more widespread shower and thunderstorm activity across most portions of the state with the exception of the southeastern plains.

NEW MEXICO WEATHER CONDITIONS - AUGUST 20-26, 2007

Station	Temperature			Precipitation				
	Mean	Maximum	Minimum	08/20 08/26	08/01 08/26	01/01 08/26	Normal Aug	Normal Jan-Aug
Farmington	77.1	95	57	0.01	0.38	5.94	1.05	5.36
Gallup	74.1	92	53	0.00	2.66	9.93	2.26	8.36
Capulin	71.1	90	51	0.12	0.43	15.33	2.56	13.08
Chama	65.1	87	43	0.05	3.33	15.98	2.82	13.90
Johnson Ranch	70.3	91	46	0.47	1.38	7.56	2.29	7.72
Las Vegas	74.1	92	55	0.00	0.36	11.14	4.27	13.87
Los Alamos	72.0	89	53	0.45	1.89	10.25	3.52	13.18
Raton	74.3	95	55	0.03	0.88	10.35	3.21	13.03
Red River	61.6	83	39	0.09	3.32	20.66	3.10	15.03
Santa Fe	75.8	96	57	0.06	1.03	9.25	2.39	10.03
Clayton	78.6	102	61	0.31	0.31	10.74	2.61	11.61
Clovis	81.4	106	65	0.00	0.55	13.76	3.17	12.74
Roy	74.4	94	57	0.60	0.85	10.80	2.81	11.84
Tucumcari	83.8	106	65	0.42	0.64	9.85	2.41	10.98
Grants	71.4	94	45	0.00	0.37	4.99	2.16	6.95
Quemado	66.6	86	39	0.00	1.66	5.21	3.12	9.68
Albuquerque	81.7	97	64	0.05	0.97	7.84	1.64	6.06
Carrizozo	77.3	98	56	0.19	0.49	7.82	2.69	8.24
Socorro	78.4	97	59	0.37	1.83	7.26	1.90	5.84
Gran Quivira	74.8	96	51	0.30	0.80	11.23	3.27	10.79
Moriarty	72.8	96	51	0.15	0.37	6.98	2.69	9.06
Ruidoso	68.4	89	49	0.54	1.07	17.16	4.04	15.03
Carlsbad	83.9	108	66	0.34	2.20	12.41	2.25	7.99
Roswell	80.6	107	61	0.00	1.72	11.13	2.03	8.77
Tatum	79.6	102	61	0.00	1.63	17.13	2.48	11.17
Alamogordo	83.9	102	68	0.00	0.52	6.48	2.41	7.92
Animas	81.5	97	65	0.00	2.20	8.06	2.34	7.08
Deming	82.1	103	65	0.42	1.20	5.09	2.05	6.48
Las Cruces	83.6	104	68	0.10	1.10	8.10	2.29	5.92
T or C	80.9	96	65	0.00	1.71	6.15	2.15	6.59

(T) Trace (-) No Report (*) Correction

All reports based on preliminary data. Precipitation data corrected monthly from official observation forms.

CATTLE ON FEED

NEW MEXICO: Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter market in New Mexico feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 129,000 on August 1, 2007. This compares to 132,000 head on July 1, 2007. Placements decreased by 10,000 head from June 2007 to a total of 12,000 head in July. Marketings were down by 3,000 head to 14,000 in July. Other disappearance remained at 1,000 head.

UNITED STATES: Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.3 million head on August 1, 2007. The inventory was 5 percent below August 1, 2006 but 2 percent above August 1, 2005. Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.62 million, 17 percent below 2006 and 3 percent below 2005. Net placements were 1.56 million. This is the lowest placements for the month of July since the series began in 1996. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 360,000, 600-699 pounds were 312,000, 700-799 pounds were 445,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 505,000. Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 2.0 million, 3 percent above 2006 and 4 percent above 2005. Other disappearance totaled 61,000 during July, 5 percent above 2006 but unchanged from 2005.

Cattle on Feed: Number on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance, 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots ^{1/}

	Number on Feed			Placed			Marketed			Other Disappearance2/		
	8/1/06	7/1/07	8/1/07	-----DURING-----								
				7/06	6/07	7/07	7/06	6/07	7/07	7/06	6/07	7/07
AZ	339	343	341	31	39	32	34	35	33	2	1	1
CA	515	545	540	55	53	51	67	60	54	3	3	2
CO	940	940	870	145	120	115	175	190	175	10	10	10
ID	225	220	205	36	37	35	40	46	49	1	1	1
IA	445	510	500	60	52	64	73	61	73	2	1	1
KS	2,360	2,140	2,100	590	375	430	495	515	450	15	10	20
NE	1,950	2,050	1,910	380	330	350	410	560	480	10	10	10
NM	144	132	129	23	22	12	18	17	14	1	1	1
OK	345	325	305	58	52	48	52	66	67	1	1	1
SD	165	197	175	24	24	22	38	39	42	1	3	2
TX	2,970	2,870	2,780	480	485	390	480	475	470	10	10	10
WA	154	150	144	33	31	27	26	30	32	1	---	1
Oth Sts	270	315	300	43	37	46	42	46	60	1	1	1
US	10,822	10,737	10,299	1,958	1,657	1,622	1,950	2,140	1,999	58	52	61

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better. ^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pastures, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

QUARTERLY FARM LABOR

NEW MEXICO-ARIZONA: There were 22,000 hired workers on farms and ranches in New Mexico and Arizona during the week of July 8-14, 2007, down 12 percent from a year ago. Average hours worked by all hired workers decreased to 45.0 hours a week compared to 47.2 hours last year. Wage rates for field workers were up from the previous year at \$8.34 an hour, an increase of 79 cents. Livestock worker wages were up to \$9.65, compared to \$9.10 an hour in July 2006. Overall, average wage rates for all hired agricultural workers increased to \$9.47 an hour.

UNITED STATES: There were 1,205,000 hired workers on the Nation's farms and ranches during the week of July 8-14, 2007, up 1 percent from a year ago. Of these hired workers, 847,000 workers were hired directly by farm operators. Agricultural service employees on farms and ranches made up the remaining 358,000 workers. Farm operators paid their hired workers an average wage of \$10.04 per hour during the July 2007 reference week, up 32 cents from a year earlier. Field workers received an average of \$9.31 per hour, up 38 cents from last July, while livestock workers earned \$9.80 per hour compared with \$9.49 a year earlier. The field and livestock worker combined wage rate, at \$9.44 per hour, was up 37 cents from last year. The number of hours worked averaged 41.6 hours for hired workers during the survey week, up 1 percent from a year ago.

**Workers on Farms, Hours worked Per Week, and Wage Rates for All Hired Workers,
 Selected Regions and U.S., July 2006-2007**

	Mountain II ^{2/}		Mountain III ^{3/}		Southern Plains ^{4/}		United States ^{5/}	
	Jul 9-15 2006	Jul 8-14 2007	Jul 9-15 2006	Jul 8-14 2007	Jul 9-15 2006	Jul 8-14 2007	Jul 9-15 2006	Jul 8-14 2007
Workers on Farms	-----Thousands-----							
All Hired Workers	25	18	25	22	53	58	876	847
Hours Worked	-----Hours Per Week-----							
All Hired Workers	44.7	40.5	47.2	45.0	37.6	41.0	41.0	41.6
Wages By Work Type	-----Dollars Per Hour-----							
Field	8.33	9.25	7.55	8.34	8.53	8.14	8.93	9.31
Livestock	8.89	9.85	9.10	9.65	9.12	9.67	9.49	9.80
Field & Livestock	8.55	9.45	8.12	8.80	8.75	8.85	9.07	9.44
All Workers	9.34	9.85	8.70	9.47	9.38	9.18	9.72	10.04

^{1/} Excludes agricultural service workers. ^{2/} Mountain Region II consists of CO, NV & UT. ^{3/} Mountain Region III consists of AZ & NM. ^{4/} Southern Plains region consists of OK & TX. ^{5/} Excludes AK.